THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have constituted an Expert Committee on small Enterprises headed by Shri Abid Hussain (former Member, Planning Commission) on the 29th December, 1995. As per the terms of reference of the Committee, it will do an intensive study of the existing policies pertaining to the small scale sector and will submit its recommendations thereafter.

(c) The Government have taken various steps to promote the small scale sector such as designing the programmes of product reservation, excise concession, priority sector lending etc. The State Governments also give capital subsidy, sales tax exemption/deferment, power subsidy etc.

The Government is also taking some new measures for the small scale sector like providing infrastructural support in integrated manner, adequate credit, enhanced technology support for modernisation and technology upgradation, enhancement of entrepreneurship development programme by involving voluntary agencies and strengthening entrepreneruship development Institutes, special employment generation programmes by way of self-employment etc.

Procurement of Wheat, Rice and Other Foodgrains

137. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has not been able to procure wheat and rice even to the extent it did last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of procurement made this year and in the last three years itemwise;

(d) whether the production of Kharif crops has been less in 1995 than the previous years; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The procurement of wheat and rice declined mainly due to the following factors:—

(i) lesser arrivals of wheat and paddy in the market;

(ii) purchase of 10% of the market arrivals of wheat by the trade as compared with only 6% in the previous season;

(iii) Rains at the time of ripening of wheat in Punjab/Haryana resulted in lower wheat production;

(iv) Grant of exemption to non-basmati fine and superfine rice meant for export from levy obligation in view of comfortable level of stocks of rice in the Central Pool;

(v) Suspension of levy on rice in Punjab into avoid excessive accumulation of stocks of rice in the State.

(c) The details of procurment of wheat and rice during the current rabi/kharif marketing season and during the last three marketing seasons are given in the Statement attached. (*See* below)

(d) and (e) There is a marginal shortfall expected in the production of Kharif foodgrains during 1995-96 marketing season as compared to previous year.

Statement

Total Procurement of Wheat and Rice for the current year and the last three years

Procurement of Wheat

Rabi Marketing Season	(Fig. in Lakh Mts)
1993-94	128.35
1994-95	118.68
1995-96	123.26
1996-97 (AS ON 1.7.96)	81.30

Procurement of Rice (Including Paddy in terms of Rice)

Kharif Marketing Season	(Fig. in Lakh Mts)
1992-93	130.19
1993-94	142.41
1994-95	137.06
1995-96 (AS ON 1.7.96)	97.12

Review of Procurement of Rice and other Foodgrains

138. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review on the procurement of rice and other foodgrains;

(b) if so, the target and achievement in 1995-96 (foodgrain-wise);

(c) whether there is a shortfall in the procurement of rice and wheat during the current year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to overcome the problem and to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Wheat, paddy and coarsegrains are procured for Central Pool under minimum price support scheme on a totally voluntary basis. Rice is procured under a system of statutory levy imposed on rice millers and traders. The quantum of levy rice collected in turn depends on the quantity of paddy purchased by the millers. No target for procurement of wheat, rice and coarsegrains can thus be fixed.

A quantity of 81.35 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procured upto 1.7.1996 during the current Rabi Marketing Season 1996-97 as compared with 122.05 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year. The procurement of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) for the Central Pool has been 97.33 lakh tonnes as on 1.7.96 in the current Kharif Marketing Season 1995-96 as compared to 130.80 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Main reasons for lesser procurement of wheat are the actual production being less than the original estimate; and increase in the international prices of wheat resulting in purchase by exporters. Similarly, the increase in price of rice in the international market, damage to the paddy crops due to excessive rains during August and September, 1995 and exemption from levy to the rice meant for export are the main reasons for lesser procurement of rice.

(e) Government has sufficient stocks of wheat and rice in the Central Pool to meet the requirement of PDS/RPDS and other Government sponsored schemes.

उद्योग स्थापित करने हेतु प्रस्ताव

139. **श्री अजीत जोगी: क्या उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) किन-किन देशों में उद्योगों की स्थापना के लिए प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किये हैं और ऐसे कितने प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(ख) ऐसे कितने विदेशी उद्योगपति हैं जो भारत में पूंजीनिवेश करने के इच्छुक हैं तथा जिनके प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं; और

(ग) इसके परिणामस्वरूप उत्पन्न होने वाले रोजगार के अवसरों की संख्या के संबंध में यदि कोई सर्वेक्षण कराया गया है तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मुरासोली मारन): (क) अन्य देशों सहित निम्नलिखित देशों ने उद्योगों की स्थापना हेतु प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किये हैं:—

यू॰के॰/यू॰एस॰ए॰/नीदरलैण्ड/इटली/फ्रांस/जर्मनी/जापान स्वीटजरलैण्ड/सींगापुर/हांग कांग/डेनमार्क/मरीशस/